



THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



July 31, 2019

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Dockets: 06-122 and 11-42

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As representatives for the military and veteran community, we are writing today to respectfully support the recommendations of other veteran and consumer advocates asking you to pause pending further study two major changes to the Lifeline program, specifically, the recently-announced increase in the minimum service standard for mobile broadband service (from 2 GB per month to 8.75 GB per month), and the phase-down in support for voice-only Lifeline services.

We agree with the filing from the National Association of American Veterans, which points out that while there are other federal programs for veterans, only Lifeline focuses on affordability of essential voice telephone service and broadband Internet access service for low-income households. Lifeline helps low-income and rural veterans afford critical telecommunications services.

We share the concern of NAAV and others that unless the Commission acts to delay these harmful changes to the Lifeline program, thousands of low-income households, including households whose members include veterans, will be negatively impacted. As NAAV and other filers note, many Lifeline customers use their phones to access health services. For veterans who may suffer chronic health conditions as a result of their service to the nation, Lifeline services can help them better manage the condition outside a doctor's office. This is most essential for older and disabled veterans and those living in rural areas and may face additional barriers to in-person visits to their doctors or who participate in other health care programs.

We value the Lifeline program and the help it provides for veterans. For these reasons, we urge the FCC to reject these punitive and unnecessary proposals. Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,


James R. Fisher
National Executive Director
Korean War Veterans Association

THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA is
DEFEND our Nation -- **CARE** for our Veterans -- **PERPETUATE** our Legacy
REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen -- **MAINTAIN** our Memorial
SUPPORT a free Korea